

Input Validation



Paul Mooney

Chief Software Architect, Microsoft MVP

@daishisystems | www.insidethecpu.com



Overview



Input Validation in a Nutshell

- Prevent attacks like SQL Injection
- Built-in validation functions
- Remove malicious content
- Whitelisting
- Boundary-checking
- Character-escaping



Demo



Techniques to Ensure Data Validity

- Set up our development environment
- Install Go
- Install Postman



Ensuring Data Validity: Whitelisting

Defining a list of allowed values or patterns



Boundary Checking

Ensuring that user input is within a defined range



Character Escaping

Preventing attacks such as cross-site scripting



Numeric Validation

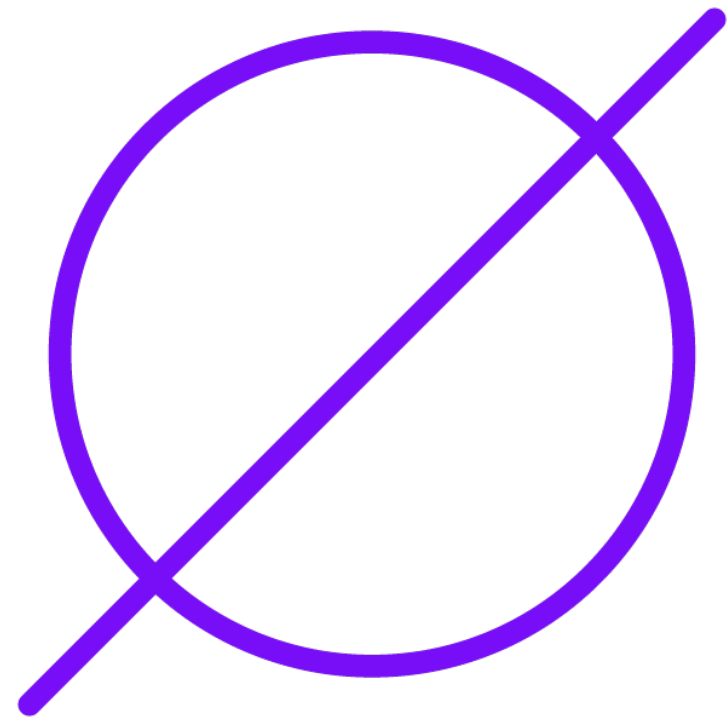
Ensuring that numeric inputs are safe and dependable



Checking for Null Bytes

Preventing unexpected issues with strings





What is a Null byte?

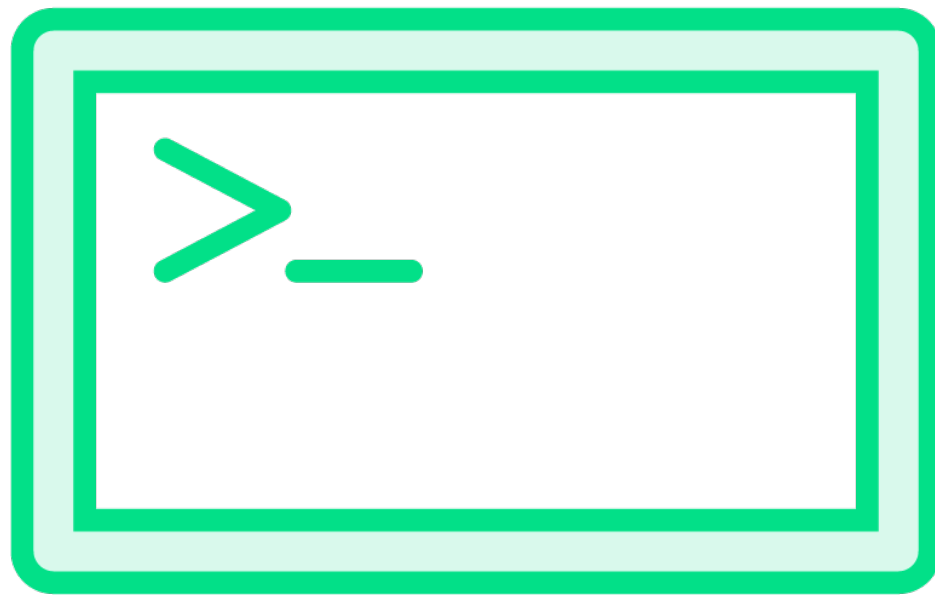
- Null terminator
- Null character
- Character string end
- `\x00`
- Indicate string end prematurely
- Unexpected behavior



Checking for New Line Characters

Preventing unexpected issues with strings





What is a Newline character?

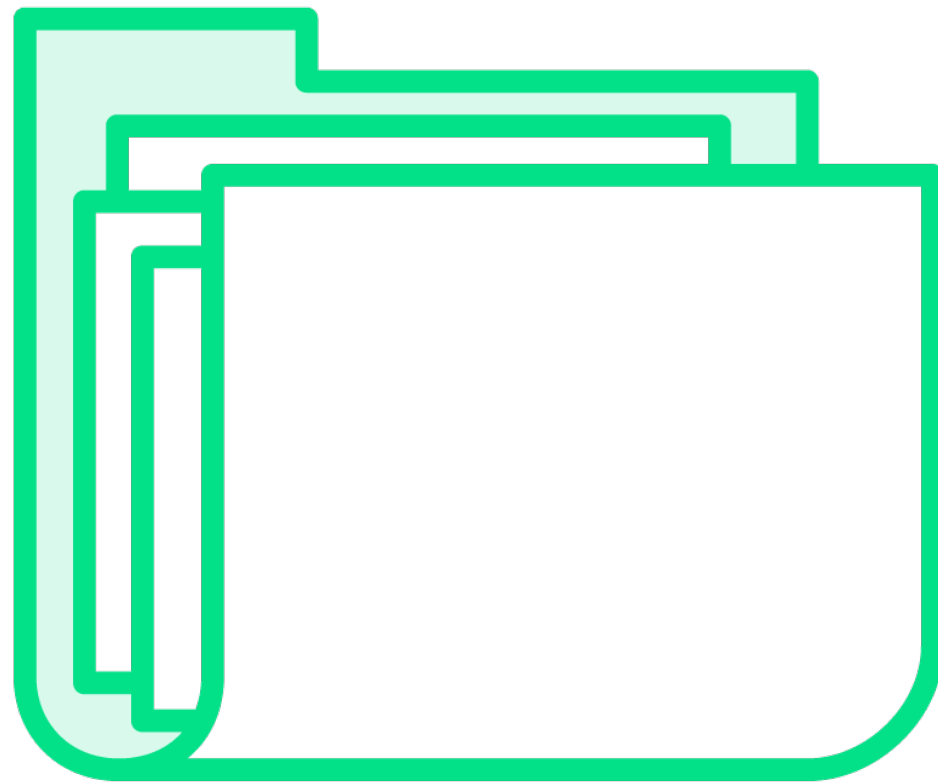
- End of a line of text
- Byte value 10
- Inject malicious code



Identifying Path Alteration Characters

Protecting files and directories from unauthorized access





What is a path-alteration character?

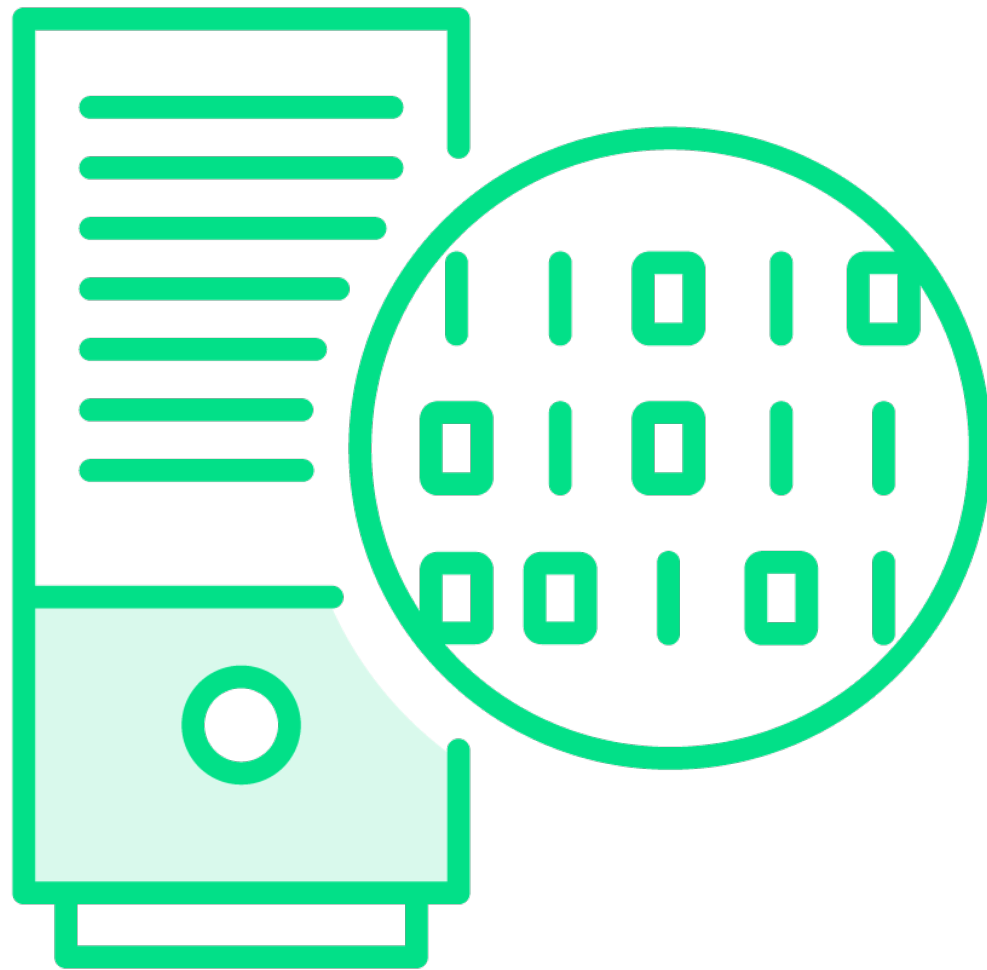
- Directory traversal character
- Navigate between filesystems
- Access files and directories



Validating Extended UTF-8 Encoding

Preventing input validation-bypass attacks





What is Extended UTF-8 Encoding?

- Variation of UTF-8 encoding scheme
- Encoding beyond standard Unicode range
- Can bypass input validation



Summary



Input Validation

- Whitelisting
- Boundary-checking
- Character-escaping
- Erroneous user input
- Threat actors
- Input validation is only the first step

